



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
~~FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY~~
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

March 4, 1954

Communicable Disease Center
Enteric Bacteriology Laboratories
P. O. Box 183
Chamblee, Georgia

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 1. I will be very happy to see the progress report mentioned therein. It has not arrived as yet. If you should like the copy returned, please so mark it.

We have done nothing with the Iseki problem except that Bailey and Miss Davis did a little work on recovery of 4,12 types from 4,5,12 types. According to their results the former can be recovered constantly from certain cultures of the latter, but not from all such cultures. Also, we have done nothing toward the substituting of 5 into 4,12 cultures.

Like you I feel that the results of Kauffmann are subject to suspicion. I think it quite possible that form variation is involved in the appearance of 1 antigen. I think the appearance of antigen 5 in *S. abortus equi* is a much stronger indication of antigenic change since no culture of *S. abortus equi* has been shown to possess that antigen. However, I think the matter of substitution of minor somatic antigens must be cleared up before any conclusions can be drawn.

Your experiments with the "trails" sound most exciting. Your observations seem to me to be most interesting and significant.

With kind regards, I am

For the Officer-in-Charge, Bacteriology Section

Sincerely yours,

Philip R. Edwards, Ph. D.
Bacteriologist-in-Charge
Enteric Bacteriology Unit